

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-17 are now rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the article "A Policy Based Networking Architecture for Enterprise Networks" by Nomura et al. Nomura is one of the inventors in the instant application, which article was published in June 1999 IEEE International Conference on Communications publication.

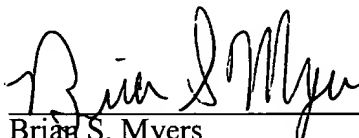
However, this application was filed on December 21, 1999 and its priority date of January 14, 1999 predates the date of publication of the Nomura et al. article.

In support of the priority date Applicant submits herewith an English language translation of the certified copy of the priority document together with a statement as to its accuracy.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully requested the rejection of claims 1-17 be withdrawn and this application placed in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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BSM:fd